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DE RUEHWL #0044 0440525
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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5059
INFO RUEHXP/ALL NATO POST COLLECTIVE
RUCNARF/ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM COLLECTIVE
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 0073
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TAGS: PGOV PREL NZ UN YI EU UNMIK

SUBJECT: LOBBYING NEW ZEALAND ON KOSOVO INDEPENDENCE

REF: STATE 13716

Classified By: DCM DAVID J. KEEGAN, EMBASSY WELLINGTON. REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D).

¶1. (C) DCM presented the demarche reftel to Caroline Forsyth, MFAT Deputy Secretary for Multilateral and Global Affairs, on February 12. She responded that New Zealand has been following developments in Kosovo closely. GNZ has a long-standing established practice of not making declarations of recognition, but it rather allows that to be inferred from its actions. She said that she expected the GNZ would do the same in this case.

¶2. (C) DCM urged that New Zealand consider some public statement in support of Kosovo's declaration of independence, perhaps in the form of a press release from the Foreign Minister. Forsyth promised to discuss the matter with others in the Ministry and get back to post.

MCCORMICK